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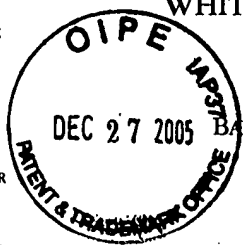
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December 27, 2005

VIA EXPRESS MAIL NO.: ER 052433789 US

In re application of : Michael C. Burke  
Serial No. : 09/267,176  
Filed : March 12, 1999  
Art Unit : 3626  
Examiner : Morgan, Robert W.  
Title : METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR A UTILITY PROCESSING  
SYSTEM

Mail Stop: Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 25, 2005**

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Honorable Commissioner:

Enclosed please find the following:

1. Applicant's Response to the Office Action dated August 25, 2005.
2. A Petition for a one month extension of time.
3. Our check in the amount of \$120.00 to cover the Petition fee.
4. Our post card. Please date stamp and return.

Also, please charge any unanticipated fees, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No.: 50-1479 (a duplicate copy of this charge authorization is attached).

Please associate with and direct all correspondence to:

**CUSTOMER NO. 25223**

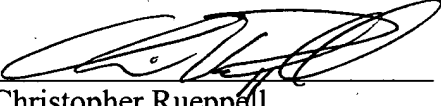
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DATE: December 27, 2005

Respectfully Submitted,  
Constellation Energy Group, Inc.

By:   
R. Christopher Rueppell  
Reg. No. 47,045

ATTACHMENTS: 1. *Response to Office Action dated August 25, 2005 and Petition.*  
2. Copy of this *Transmittal* for accounting purposes.  
3. Copy of the *Petition* for accounting purposes.  
4. Check in the amount of \$120.00 for the Petition fee.  
5. Return Postcard.

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.10**

"Express Mail" Mailing Label Number: ER 052433789 US

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop: Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

BY:   
R. Christopher Rueppell

Date of Deposit: December 27, 2005

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CRUEPPELL:wtp

Enclosures